

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A laminate for sealing an electrolyte or protecting an electrode of a battery, comprising

a metal layer,

an inert protective layer formed over the surface of the metal layer in contact with said metal layer, wherein the inert protective layer is a reaction product of a chemical reaction of the metal layer surface with ~~an acid~~ a chemical treating liquor containing chromic acid (salt) and phosphoric acid (salt), and

a layer of an adhesive resin comprised of a polyolefin modified by ~~carboxyl group or a derivative thereof~~ a grafting reaction with maleic anhydride, formed over the inert protective layer and fusedly bonded with heat thereto, wherein said polyolefin to be modified by ~~carboxyl group~~ the grafting reaction with maleic anhydride being a homopolymer of ethylene or propylene or a copolymer of ethylene or propylene with an α -olefin having two or more carbon atoms or with an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or a derivative thereof.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The laminate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the metal layer is comprised of one or more metals selected from the group consisting of aluminum, nickel, copper, iron and alloys thereof.

6-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A seal film for sealing an electrolyte of a battery or a protective film for protecting an electrode of a battery, which film is made from the laminate as claimed in claim 1.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) A seal film for sealing an electrolyte of a secondary battery or a protective film for protecting an electrode of a secondary battery, which film is made from the laminate as claimed in claim 1.

17-29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) The laminate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive resin has an adhesive strength of 5.8 N/15 mm up to an adhesive strength rendering a film unpeelable when said film is formed of the adhesive resin in direct contact with the inert protective layer formed by acid treatment of an aluminum layer.

31. (Previously presented) The laminate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive resin layer is in contact with the inert protective layer, or the adhesive resin layer is in contact with a primer coating layer and the primer coating layer is in contact with the inert protective layer.

32. (Currently amended) A laminate for sealing an electrolyte or protecting an electrode of a battery, comprising

a metal layer,

an inert protective layer formed over the surface of the metal layer in contact with said metal layer, wherein the inert protective layer is a reaction product of a chemical reaction of the metal layer surface with ~~an acid~~ a chemical treating liquor containing chromic acid (salt) and phosphoric acid (salt), and

a layer of an adhesive resin comprised of a polyolefin modified by ~~carboxyl group or a derivative thereof~~ a grafting reaction with maleic anhydride, formed over the inert protective layer and fusedly bonded with heat thereto, wherein the polyolefin modified by ~~carboxyl group or derivative thereof~~ the grafting reaction with maleic anhydride has been prepared by modifying a polyolefin which is a homopolymer of ethylene or propylene or a copolymer of ethylene or propylene with an α -olefin having two or more carbon atoms or with an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid.